

GRANTING THE CONSENT OF THE CONGRESS TO THE NEGOTIA-
TION OF A COMPACT RELATING TO THE WATERS OF THE SABINE
RIVER BY THE STATES OF TEXAS AND LOUISIANA

JULY 10, 1951.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State
of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. ENGLE, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 4288]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 4288) granting the consent of the Congress to the negotiation of a compact relating to the waters of the Sabine River by the States of Texas and Louisiana, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

The purpose of this bill is to give congressional consent to the negotiation of a compact by the States of Texas and Louisiana providing for an equitable apportionment of the waters of the Sabine River.

No appropriation of Federal funds is required. Enactment of this legislation will permit a representative of the United States to participate in the negotiations and to make a report to the Congress of the proceedings.

At hearings held on H. R. 4288, Congressman J. M. Combs, of Texas, and Congressman Henry Larcade, of Louisiana, who had introduced an identical bill, H. R. 4289, appeared in its support. Also heard were representatives of the two States' official water agencies, who testified that exploratory and preliminary steps toward ultimate control and development of the Sabine River have been completed. Texas and Louisiana believe, however, that no actual development work can be started until such time as a satisfactory compact agreement is reached.

The report of the Department of the Interior is set forth below in full:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington 25, D. C., June 29, 1951.

Hon. JOHN R. MURDOCK,
*Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington 25, D. C.*

MY DEAR MR. MURDOCK: This is in response to your requests of May 29 for reports by this Department on H. R. 4288 and H. R. 4289, identical bills granting the consent of the Congress to the negotiation of a compact relating to the waters of the Sabine River by the States of Texas and Louisiana.

The bills appear to be drawn in much the usual form of previous bills granting the consent of the Congress to the negotiation of compacts relating to interstate streams. There appears to be nothing questionable in H. R. 4288 or H. R. 4289 and this Department, accordingly, would have no objection to the enactment of either of them.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this report to your Committee.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM E. WARNE,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs believes that the compact method of settling water controversies is fair and equitable, and unanimously recommends the enactment of H. R. 4288.

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